

GREETINGS FROM OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Greetings from our Editor-in-Chief

Assuming that you don't have epilepsy, have you ever thought what you would do after your first seizure? Recently, I was asked this question – **see if my approach is different than what you would do.**

An FDA Advisory Panel recently met to take up the issue of antiepileptic drugs and suicidality. Epilepsy Therapy Project President Joyce Cramer attended the meeting and **shares her thoughts with us.**

Here are the highlights of our new additions:

- **Partnership with Epilepsy & Behavior:** Last month we announced that selected full-length articles from the journal Epilepsy & Behavior are now available on the professional site. This month, we present
 - **When did neurologists and psychiatrists stop talking to each other?**
 - **Herbal medicines and epilepsy: the potential for benefit and adverse effects**
 - **The use of sertraline in patients with epilepsy: is it safe?**
- **Epilepsy Diets:** This month, Dr. Eric Kossoff, editor of *epilepsy.com's* KetoNews, talks about the other conditions besides epilepsy for which the ketogenic diet is being studied.

For your patients:

- **Women with Epilepsy:** There are many topics that relate to the care of women with epilepsy. To help you be sure to discuss these topics with your doctor, we've provided a checklist that you can print and take with you to the doctor's office.
- **Safety of Topiramate in Pregnancy:** Orrin Devinsky, MD reflects on a new published study about topiramate (Topamax) and birth defects.
- **Mothers with Epilepsy:** When a mother has epilepsy, she is challenged both personally by the disorder and also by her responsibilities as a parent. Rita Watson writes about a recent survey of mothers with epilepsy focused on issues involved with caring for a baby.
- **Genetics and Epilepsy – a New Study:** The largest research study ever created to

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming epilepsy-related conferences, symposia, and events include:

Sept 21-Sept 25, 2008
8th European Congress on Epileptology
 Berlin, Germany

Oct 15-Oct 17, 2008
11th European Conference on Epilepsy and Society (IBE)
 Marseille, France

Oct 22-Oct 26, 2008
Asian Oceanian Congress of Neurology (AOCN 2008) & 16th Annual Conference of the Indian Academy of Neurology (IANCON 2008)
 New Delhi, India

understand how genetics influences epilepsy, the NIH-funded Epilepsy Phenome/Genome Project is now underway.

- **BlogTalkRadio:** *epilepsy.com* is proud to launch a new series of live programs on BlogTalkRadio. On August 14, your patients can join *epilepsy.com*'s Resource Specialist, Patty Shafer, and Professor Andres Kanner for a special show on the effects of seizures and antiepileptic drugs on mood.
- **American Epilepsy Outreach Foundation:** The American Epilepsy Outreach Foundation raises the public's awareness of epilepsy through advocacy and education, and provides support for those living with epilepsy and their families. Your patients can learn more at www.epilepsyoutreach.org.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! Watch for the launch of the ETP Innovation Center, coming soon!

Sincerely,

Steven C. Schachter, MD
Editor-in-Chief



WE NEED YOUR HELP

epilepsy.com/Professionals is building a resource section of useful practice tools for the professional community. If you have a form, patient information sheet, or other useful handout for patients with epilepsy, and you'd like to share it with thousands of your colleagues by adding it to the **resource section of epilepsy.com/professionals**, please email it to info@epilepsytherapyproject.org or fax it to (540) 687-8066, and we'll take it from there. Thanks!!

ABOUT THE EPILEPSY THERAPY PROJECT



The **Epilepsy Therapy Project** is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit corporation. The organization was founded by parents of young children with epilepsy, along with their children's doctor, a leading researcher and clinician in the field of epilepsy. Our mission is to advance new treatments for people living with epilepsy.

The Epilepsy Therapy Project is also the sponsor of epilepsy.com and epilepsy.com/professionals. We are working to build epilepsy.com/professionals into the most comprehensive source of information, tools, and interchange available online for patients, practicing neurologists, and for the research and therapy development community.

To learn more about our programs, please visit us at: www.epilepsy.com/epilepsy_therapy_project.